Vijayanagar Steel Project

618. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the request of Karnataka Government is still pending with the Central Government with regard to transfer of land and other assets of Vijayanagar Steel Project to the State Government/Joint Sector venture; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the inordinate delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The proposal submitted by the State Government of Karnataka had to be reviewed due to certain changes in their proposed Joint Sector Project. However, a decision in the matter is expected to be taken shortly.

Production of Steel by SAIL

619. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has recently initiated several measures to increase production and raise profits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the modernisation and expansion of Steel Authority of India Limited would be carried during the current plan period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. SAIL has recently initiated several measures to improve production and productivity which are as follows:—

Production

(i) Increase in production of saleable steel from 8.028 MT in 1991-92 to 8.216 MT in 1992-93 and further to 8.600 MT in 1993-94.

(ii) Increased production of high demand products like thinner gauge HR Coils, thinner gauge CR Coils/sheets, 6 & 7 MM wire rods, Electrode quality wire rods, CRNO, TMBP etc.

(iii) Reduction in energy consumption.

(iv) Improving by-products yield and recovery.

(v) Higher captive power generation.

(vi) Optimising inter-plant synergy with transfer of rollable steel and know-how.

Profitability

(i) Increase in production of saleable steel.

(ii) Improvement of techno economic parameters so as to effect cost reduction.

(iii) Reduction in enegry consumption.

(iv) Improvement in yield of by-products and better recovery of waste and secondary arisings.

(v) Optimising captive power generation.

(vi) Better inventory management.

(vii) Vigorous implementation of budgetary control system.

(viii) Inculation of cost consciousness at all levels in the Company.

(ix) Modernisaion and technological upgradation of plant and equipment.

(c) and (d) Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plant Modernisation projects are currently under implementation and these are likely to be completed during the 8th Plan period. Modernisation of Bokaro Steel